

OPEN W/ LIGHT “NEIGHBORLY” THEMATIC MUSIC, THEN FADE UNDER DIALOG.

JOE:

Hey, Mike! Looks like a great day for yard work.

MIKE:

Sure is.

MUSIC UP DURING THIS PAUSE.

MIKE:

You, uh, workin’ on your Masters? What’s all this?

JOE:

No, just doing a little, you know, medical research.

MIKE:

Here. Gimme some. On what?

JOE:

Aw, my right shoulder’s been giving me some trouble. Doctor said it might be osteoarthritis. So I thought I’d find out more about it.

MIKE: (LAUGHING)

It’s tough gettin’ old, ain’t it? You sure you should be lifting all these heavy books? You know, bad shoulder and all...

JOE:

Well, I want to learn all I can.

MIKE:

Hey, I know a place you can go to get all the information you need – you don’t have to drive across town. In fact, all you have to lift is one finger.

JOE:

You’re kidding me, right?

MIKE:

No, man, on the Internet. It's called My HealtheVet. All it takes is your index finger and a few mouse clicks. Hey, you didn't fly all those missions for nothing. Now the VA wants to help veterans stay healthy – even a guy at your advanced age.

JOE:

Very funny. How does it work?

MIKE:

You got a minute? Take a break from all that heavy lifting and come on inside. I'll show you.

MUSIC UP BRIEFLY DURING THIS TRANSITION

MIKE: (FADING IN)

...the VA's pulled together all the medical information you need – and a whole lot more. My HealtheVet is a VA Web site, a portal that leads you to a library of medical and wellness information. And it's interactive. They give you a Personal Health Record where you can enter your Military Health History, tests, medical events, and meds. My doc down at the VA Hypertension Clinic suggested that I take my blood pressure at the same time every day and enter it in my personal Health eLog. I've been printing it off and taking it when I go in for my appointment. You can track blood sugar, cholesterol, weight, even how much pain you're having. Sure helps answer the questions those docs ask you -- "When did you first notice that, Mike?"

JOE:

Hey, Dr. Smith just asked me about that about my arm. If I'd written it down, then I'd know.....

(:10 SEC. NARRATIVE PAUSE WHILE MIKE AND JOE LOOK AROUND THE WEB SITE.. MUSIC UP)

MIKE:

See? It's like the doctor is always in – and will see you in 30 seconds.

JOE:

Sure beats fighting traffic all the way over to the VA clinic...And in three minutes we found exactly what the doctor told me I needed to study up on. And more...

MIKE:

And you didn't have to drag home a medical library. Just register and open your account and – boom - you're in. And it's free – all because you flew those nice airplanes during Desert Storm. Hey, did I ever tell you how we Marines froze our tails in Korea in '51? We were fightin' our way south –

JOE:

Hey, I gotta run. First I gotta check out MyHealthVet. And then I gotta return all those books. Thanks, Mike.

MIKE:

Sure thing. Remember, you never get too old to learn from a Master Sergeant. Even you flyboys.

(PAUSE)

Oh, need some help with those books?

THEMATIC MUSIC UP.... AND FADE.